

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 17

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A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING AN INTERIM STUDY OF FACIAL RECOGNITION TECHNOLOGY; AND REQUIRING THAT THE FINAL RESULTS OF THE STUDY BE REPORTED TO THE 69TH LEGISLATURE.

WHEREAS, facial recognition technology is software used to identify or verify the identity of individuals based by comparing facial images; and

WHEREAS, facial recognition technology is increasingly used by Montana businesses and government agencies, including law enforcement, for widely varying purposes; and

WHEREAS, the technology can be used to investigate and solve crimes, prevent fraud, and help find missing people; and

WHEREAS, other states and local governments have enacted or are considering legislation to set parameters for the use of facial recognition technology in response to concerns about how the technology might be used in some applications in the absence of certain rules and about the potential impact to privacy and constitutional rights; and

WHEREAS, no related laws currently exist in the state.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

That the Legislative Council be requested to designate an appropriate interim committee or statutory committee, pursuant to section 5-5-217, MCA, or direct sufficient staff resources to:

- (1) examine which state agencies use facial recognition technology and for what purposes;
- (2) examine current and future uses of facial recognition technology to support criminal investigations in the state;
- (3) examine how facial recognition technology could further support and improve agency operations and services for citizens, fulfill agency missions, and improve public safety;

